

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SAJ-01 /051 W

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R 081100Z NOV 76

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1435

USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 3226

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GDS PINT PFOR PDIP/FR CZ

SUBJECT: NEW CSSR AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE

1. DR. JAN PUDLAK, DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT SINCE 1968, WAS NAMED CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR TO FRANCE ON NOVEMBER 3. CAREER DIPLOMAT PUDLAK WAS BORN AUGUST 14, 1924 IN SMALL TOWN IN SLOVAKIA. FOLLOWING GRADUATION FROM LAW FACULTY OF CHARLES UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE, HE WENT FIRST INTO MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, THEN INTO MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE WAS AMBASSADOR TO ITALY 1959-61. IN 1964-68 HE WAS MADE HEAD OF THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND IN 1969 WAS ALSO GIVEN THE RANK OF STATE SECRETARY, WHICH GAVE HIM CABINET-LEVEL STATUS. HE SERVED IN THAT JOB FOR EIGHT YEARS, UNDER PRESIDENTS SVOBODA AND HUSAK UNTIL REPLACED LAST MONTH BY JOSEF HAMAN.

2. COMMENT: PUDLAK HAS OFTEN GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH WESTERN AMBASSADORS HERE. HE SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH, AND WE FOUND HIM CORDIAL AND COMPETENT. THAT CPCZ GENERAL SECRETARY HUSAK KEPT HIM AS HIS CHEF DE CABINET FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AFTER SUCCEEDING SVOBODA AS PRESIDENT, SUGGESTS PUDLAK IS FLEXIBLE, AS WELL AS CAPABLE, AND HAS EXCELLENT PARTY CREDENTIALS. IN ADDITION TO HIS NORMJE DIPLOMATIC FUNCTIONS IN FRANCE, HE WILL PRESUMABLY ALSO HAVE TO DEAL WITH THE OFTEN THORNY STATE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN CPCZ AND PCF.

BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, PDIP, FR, CZ, (PUDLAK, JAN)
To: PARIS
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